

**Paper Topic Worksheet 1**  
(Start with the Question Marked 1)

1. Complete the following sentence. For this step, keep your answer only to a single sentence. *If you have no idea for a topic, just make one up. In fact, for the purposes of this particular exercise, your topic doesn't even have to be relevant to the seminar.*

**My topic is ...**

2. Write at least two sentences (and no more than a paragraph) explaining what “They Say” about your topic. “They” can be scholars, pundits, the “conventional wisdom,” people in general, your reader, yourself in the past, “Americans,” the news media, or even an unstated assumption that’s just “out there” in the public sphere.

3. Write at least two sentences (and no more than a paragraph) responding to the “They Say” passage from Step 2. (Agree, Disagree, or “Okay, but...”)